

INTRODUCTION

The configuration of the water table in the surficial aquifer and of the potentiometric surface of the Floridan aquifer, in parts of west-central Florida in the vicinity of well fields, are shown on sheets 1 and 2, respectively. The area maps encompass land areas of about 1,200 sq mi and include parts of Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, and Pinellas Counties. The maps are prepared semi-annually by the U.S. Geological Survey in cooperation with the Southwest Florida Water Management District and local agencies. Water levels generally are lowest in May and highest in September; in contrast, pumping is typically highest in May and lowest in September.

Water levels at the following 14 well-field areas are mapped: Cross Bar Ranch, Cypress Creek, Starkey, Pasco, Eldridge-Wilde, Clearwater-Homedale-Belleair, East Lake Road, Cosme, Section 21, Morris Bridge, Brandon, Riverview, Sun City, and Verna. The well fields supply water to urban and suburban areas of Hillsborough, Pasco, Pinellas, and Sarasota Counties.

The surficial aquifer generally consists of unconsolidated, fine-grained sediment as much as 40 feet in thickness. In most areas, the surficial aquifer is underlain by clay that forms a leaky confining layer separating the surficial aquifer from the underlying Floridan aquifer. In southern Hillsborough County and at the Verna well field in Sarasota County, confining beds separate the Floridan aquifer from overlying intermediate aquifers. The Floridan aquifer consists of limestone and dolomite beds that have an average thickness of about 1,000 feet.

SUMMARY OF CONDITIONS

Rainfall during the 1981 water year (October 1980-September 1981) was about 90 percent of the 1941-1970 normal. The area had excessive rainfall in November, February, June, and August and deficient rainfall in the remaining months (table 1). Rainfall during the 1981 wet season (June-September) was near normal whereas rainfall during the 1981 dry season (October-May) was 25 percent below normal. Mandatory restrictions on water use, due to severe drought conditions, had been in effect from May 6, 1981, to September 9, 1981.

On September 21, 1981, total pumping from the well fields was 140.3 Mgal, 60 Mgal less than on May 19, 1981, and 0.6 Mgal more than on September 15, 1980, the last two times when the well fields were monitored (table 2). Most well fields pumped less water on September 21, 1981, than on September 15, 1980, exceptions being Cross Bar Ranch, Section 21, Morris Bridge, Brandon, and Riverview well fields. Pumpage from these well fields ranged between 0.1 to 7.9 Mgal more on September 21, 1981, than on September 15, 1980.

Seasonal and year-to-year fluctuation of water levels in the surficial and Floridan aquifers for selected well-field areas are shown by hydrographs (sheet 2). The hydrographs show that, generally, the highest water levels occur in September following the wet season, and the lowest levels occur in May at the end of the dry season.

In September 1981, ground-water levels were significantly higher than those of May 1981 and were unchanged or within a few feet of those in September 1980. Seasonal recharge from summer rains and reduced pumping are factors in the water-level recovery from record and near record low levels of May 1981.

The water table for September 1981 averaged more than 4 feet higher than levels measured in May 1981 and less than 1 foot higher than September 1980 levels. Water levels were 1 to 8 feet higher in September 1981 than in May 1981. The annual change of water levels ranged from a decrease of more than 4 feet at the Section 21 well field to an increase of more than 2 feet at the Eldridge-Wilde well field.

Potentiometric levels for September 1981 were about 1 to 10 feet higher than those in May 1981, exceptions being those levels in the Riverview, Sun City, and Verna well fields. Levels at these well fields were about 28 to 36 feet higher in September 1981 than in May 1981. Potentiometric levels in September 1981 averaged less than 1 foot lower than levels measured the previous September and ranged from a decrease of 7 feet at the Cross Bar Ranch well field to an increase of 4 feet at the Verna well field.

SELECTED REFERENCES

- Yehli, D. K., Mills, L. R., and Woodham, W. M., 1980, Ground-water levels in selected well fields and in west-central Florida, September 1980: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 81-77.
- Yehli, D. K., and Woodham, W. M., 1981, Ground-water levels in selected well fields and in west-central Florida, May 1981: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 81-106.

Table 1.—Monthly rainfall, Tampa, 1980-1981 (October 1980-September 1981), and monthly normal, 1941-70, as recorded at the National Weather Service station.

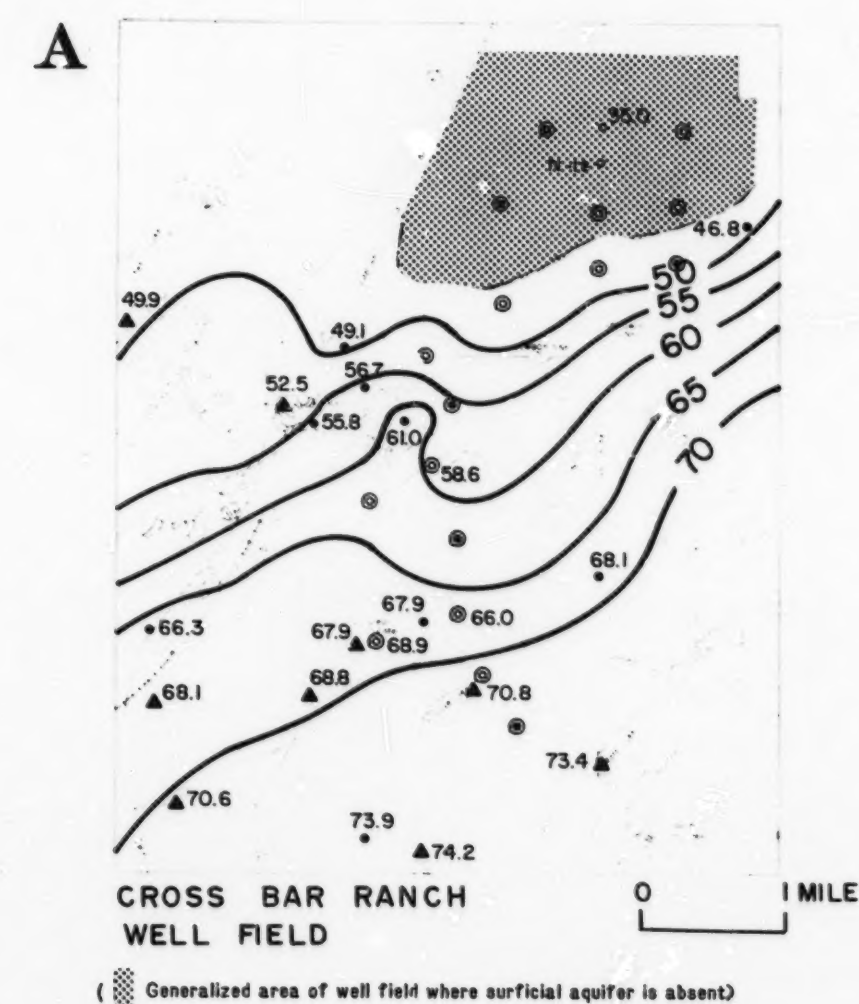
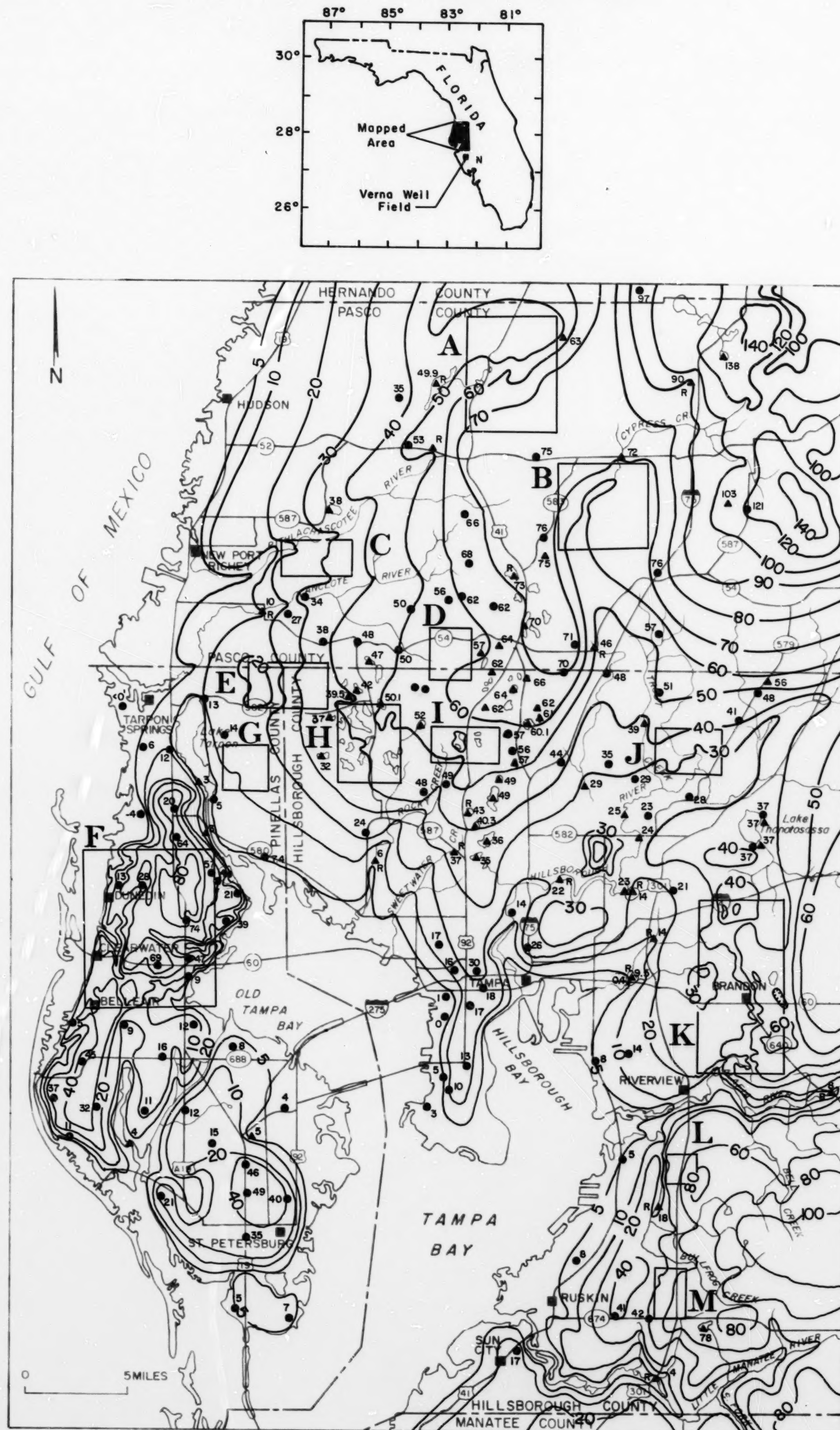
Month	1980-81	Normal
Oct	3.2	3.2
Nov	5.8	5.8
Dec	4.5	4.5
Jan	3.5	3.5
Feb	5.2	5.2
Mar	4.8	4.8
Apr	3.8	3.8
May	2.5	2.5
Jun	4.2	4.2
Jul	5.5	5.5
Aug	6.8	6.8
Sep	4.5	4.5
Total	48.3	48.3

Well field	Operating	Normal	1980-81
Cross Bar Ranch	Operating	1.5	1.5
Cypress Creek	Operating	1.5	1.5
Starkey	Operating	1.5	1.5
Pasco	Operating	1.5	1.5
Eldridge-Wilde	Operating	1.5	1.5
Clearwater-Homedale-Belleair	Operating	1.5	1.5
East Lake Road	Operating	1.5	1.5
Cosme	Operating	1.5	1.5
Section 21	Operating	1.5	1.5
Morris Bridge	Operating	1.5	1.5
Brandon	Operating	1.5	1.5
Riverview	Operating	1.5	1.5
Sun City	Operating	1.5	1.5
Verna	Operating	1.5	1.5
Total	Operating	14.0	14.0

EXPLANATION

- 20 WATER-TABLE CONTOUR—Shows altitude of water table, September 21-25, 1981. Contour interval 2, 5, 10, and 20 feet. Dashed lines indicate depressions. Data is National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 (NGVD). Some contours are highly generalized and are based on surface-drainage features in areas where water-table observations are not available.
- 33 MUNICIPAL SUPPLY WELLS—Shows location and number or name of well. Open symbol indicates well was idle. Solid symbol indicates well was pumped during monitoring.
- 94 OBSERVATION WELLS—Shows location of well and water level in feet above or below NGVD. Well number, where shown, indicates hydrograph shown in this report.
- ▲ SURFACE-WATER GAGE—Shows location of surface-water gage and water level in feet above or below NGVD.
- R WATER-LEVEL RECORDER—Shows location of water-level recorder.
- WELL-FIELD BOUNDARY—Shows generalized boundary of well-field area.
- PROPERTY BOUNDARY—Shows boundary of property owned by operating agency.
- E Well-field identification letter.

WATER TABLE IN THE SURFICIAL AQUIFER



SELECTED REFERENCES

Yobbi, D. K., Mills, L. R., and Woodham, W. M., 1980, Ground-water levels in selected well fields and in west-central Florida, September 1980: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 81-77.

Yobbi, D. K., and Woodham, W. M., 1981, Ground-water levels in selected well fields and in west-central Florida, May 1981: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 81-106.

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20 WATER-TABLE CONTOUR—Shows altitude of water table, September 21-25, 1929. Interval 2, 5, 10, and 20 feet. Baraches indicate depressions. Datum is National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 (NGVD). Some contours are highly generalized and are based on surface-drainage features in areas where water table observations are not available.

33@ MINICIPAL SUPPLY WELLS—Shows location and number or name of well. Open symbols indicate wells was idle. Solid symbol indicates well was pumped during monitoring.

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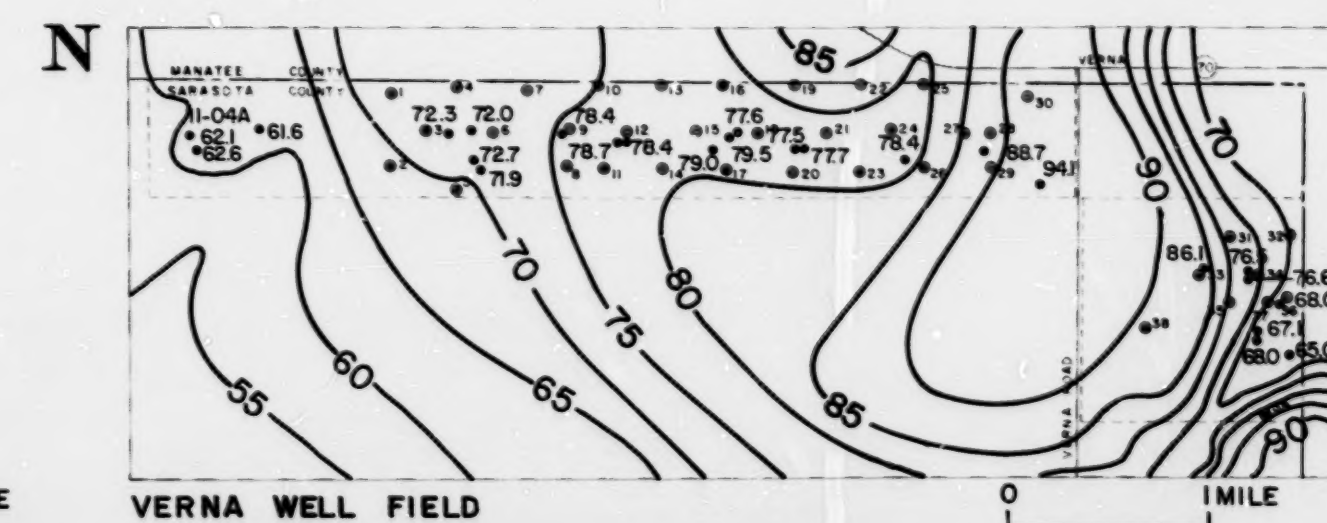
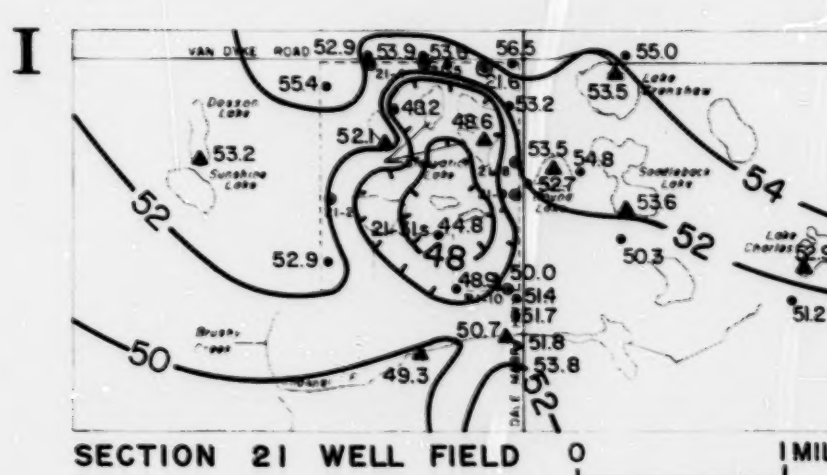
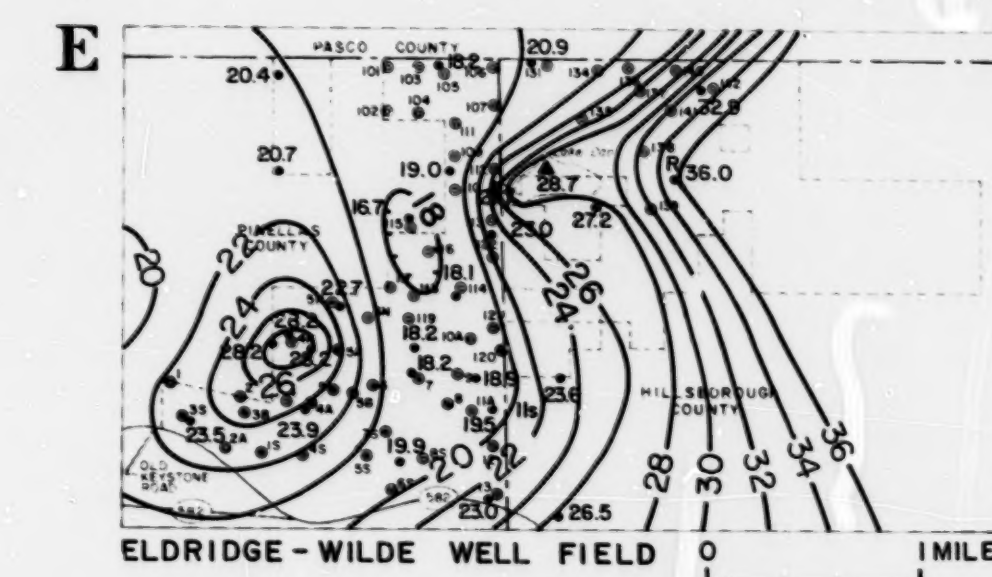
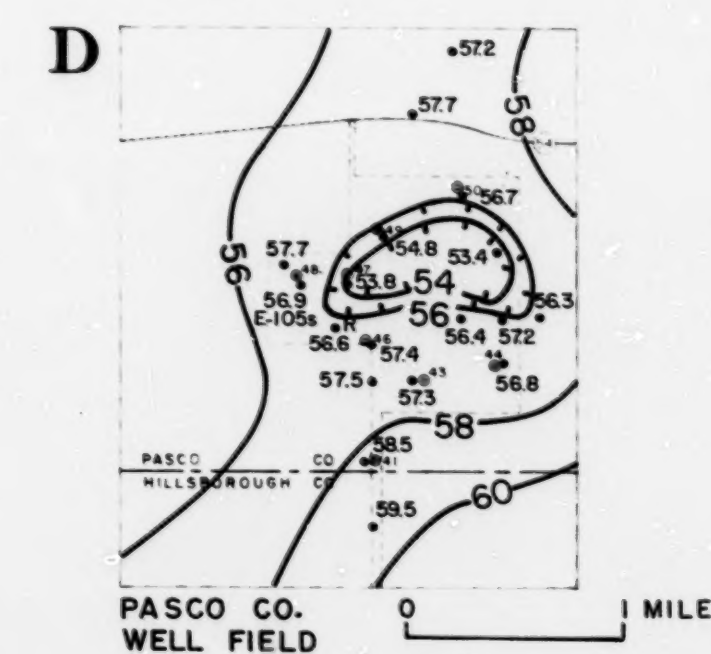
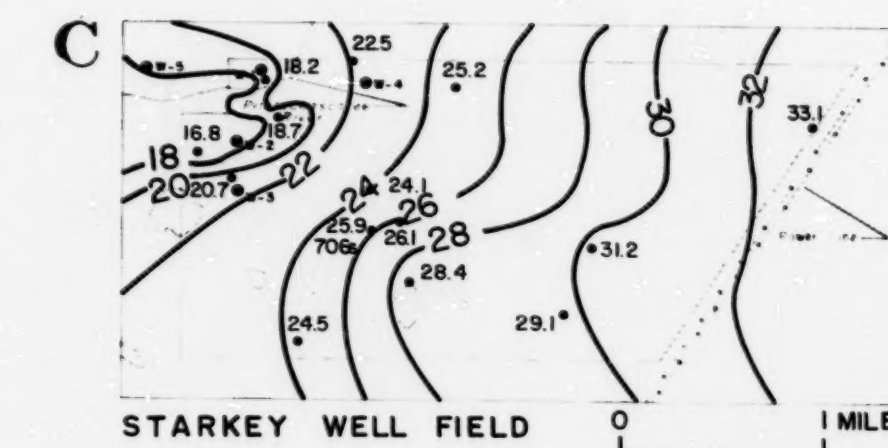
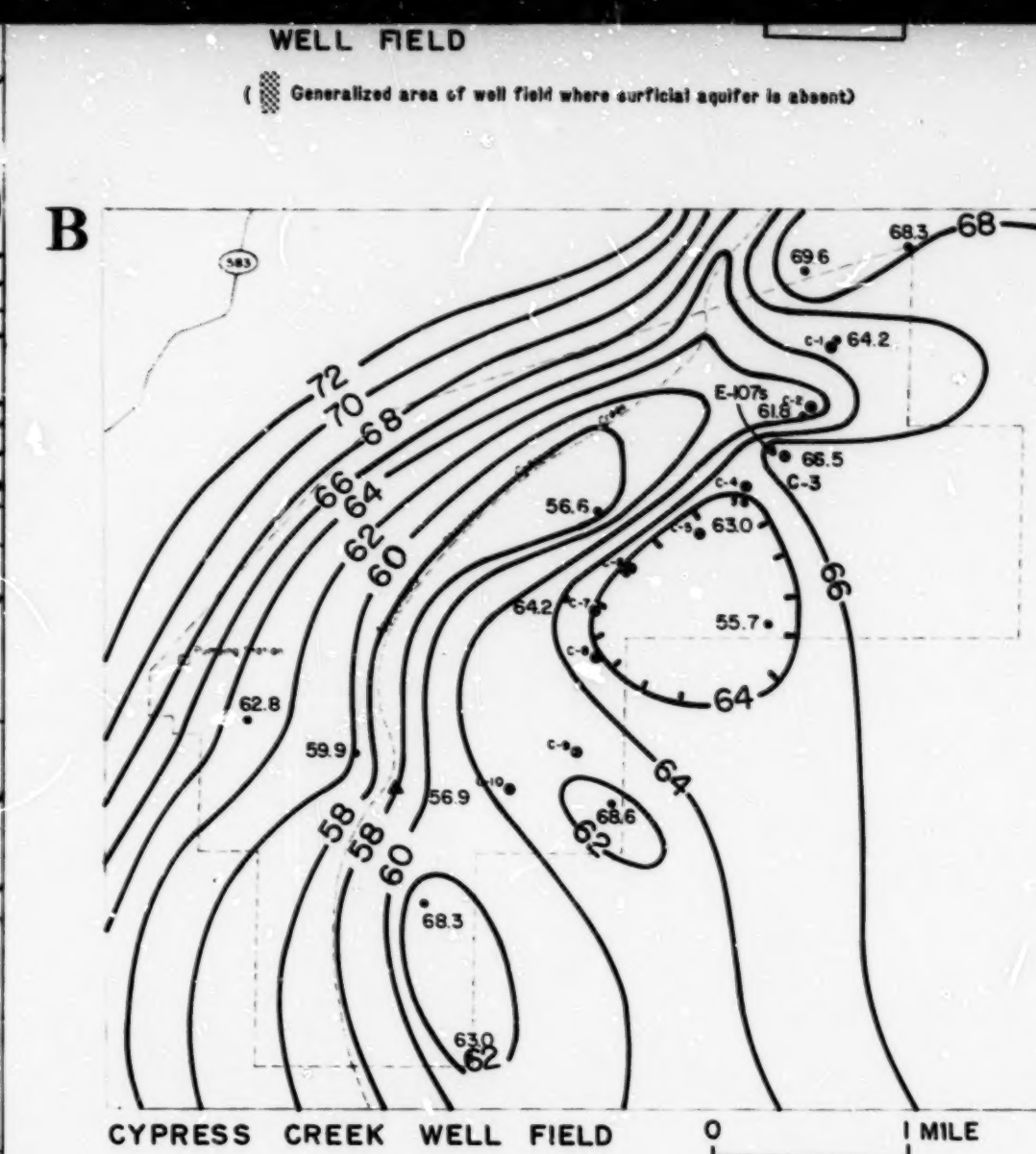
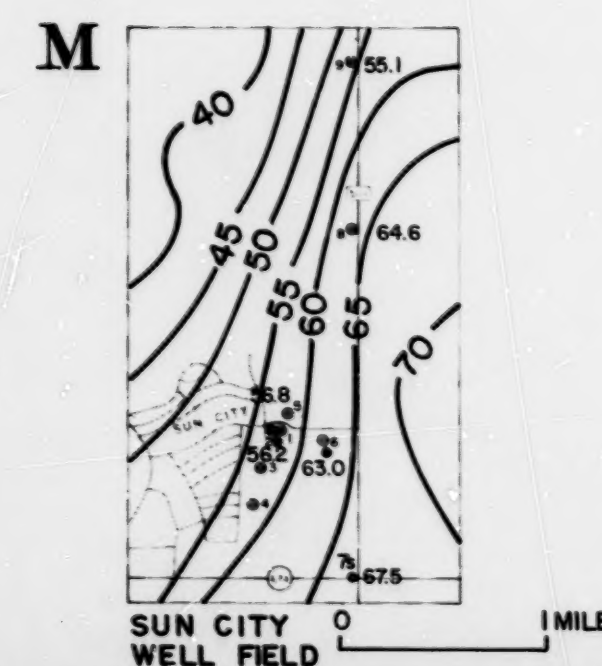
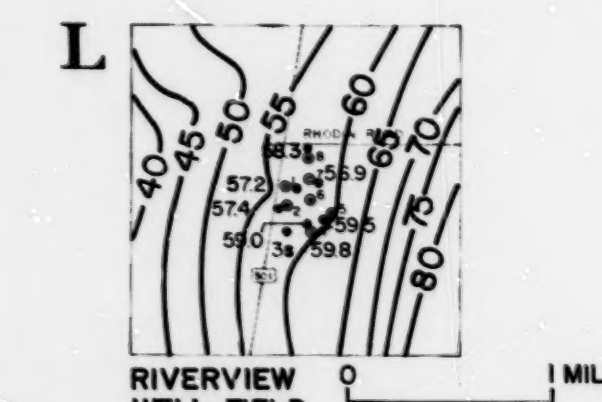
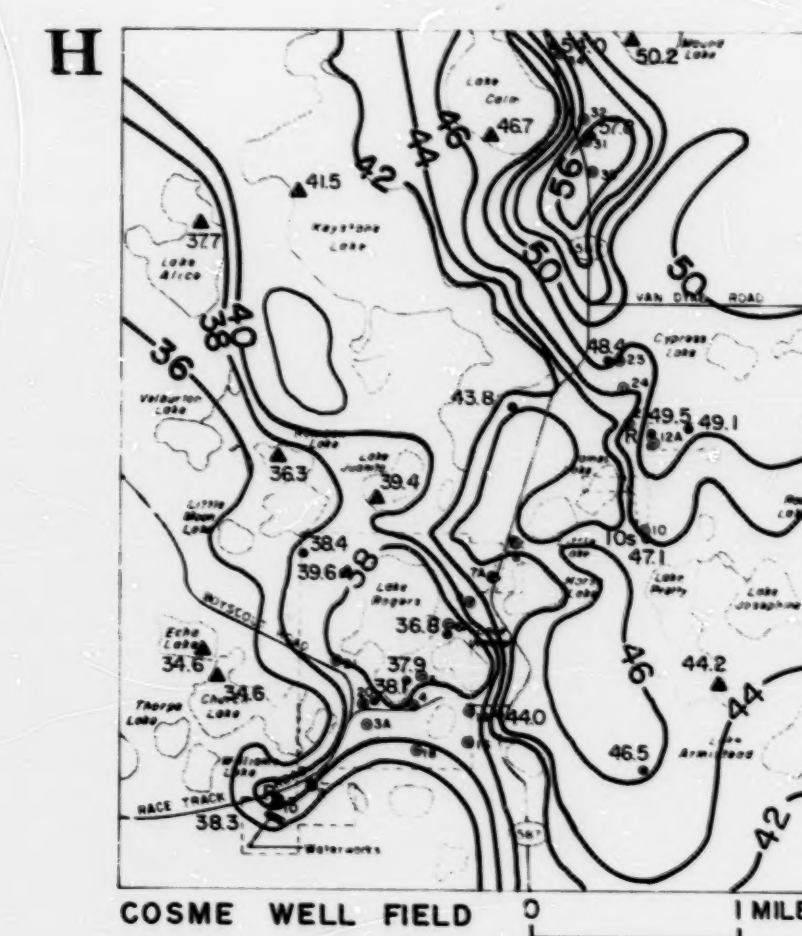
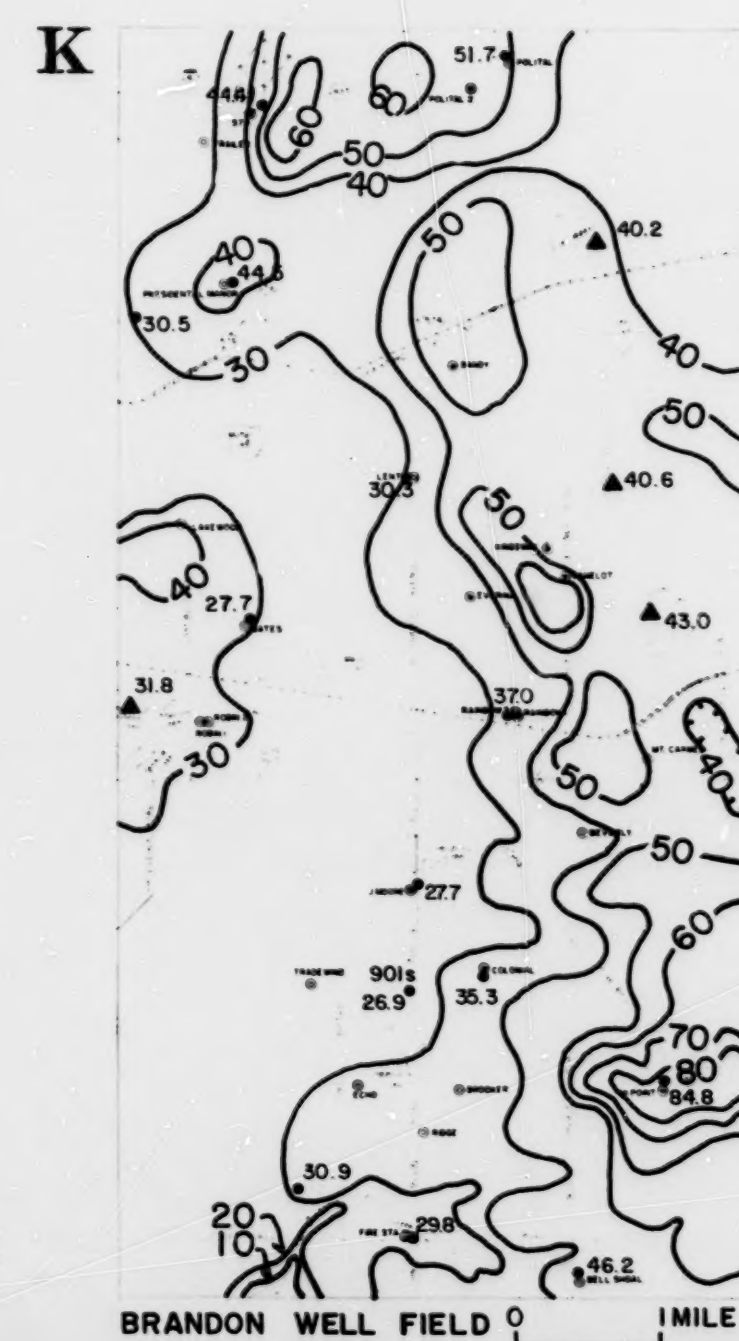
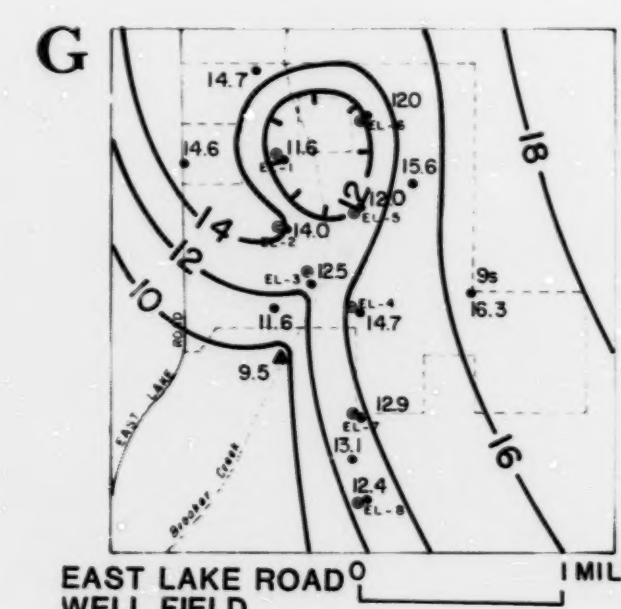
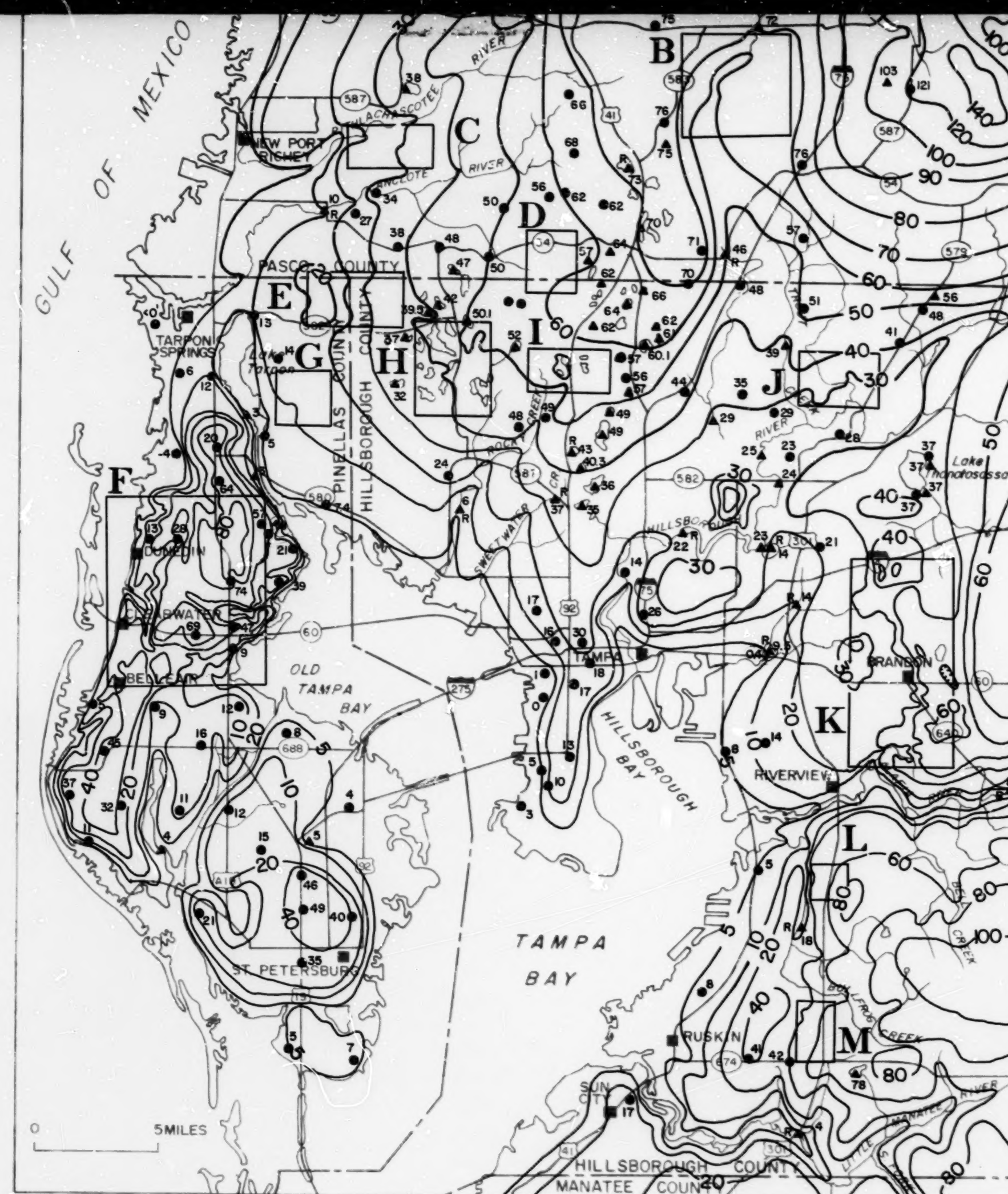
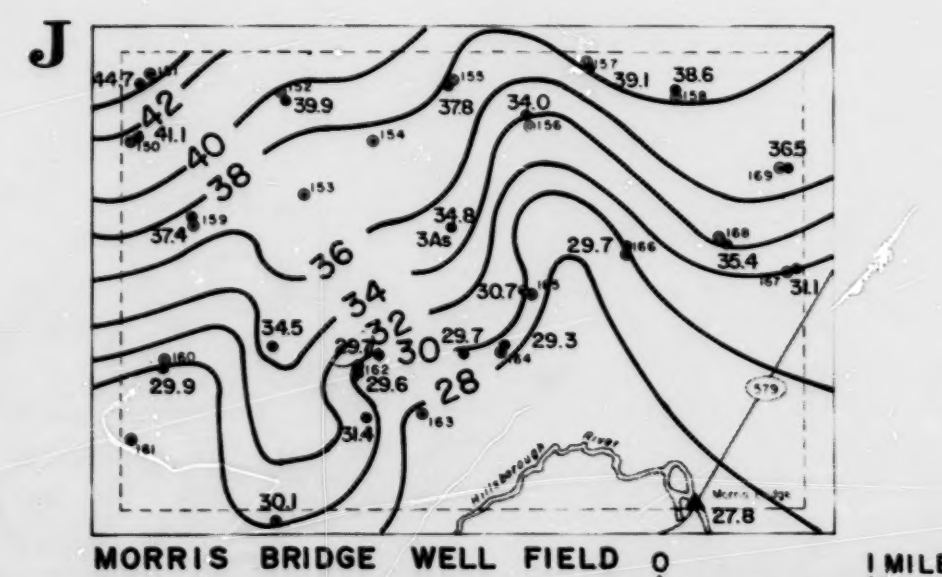
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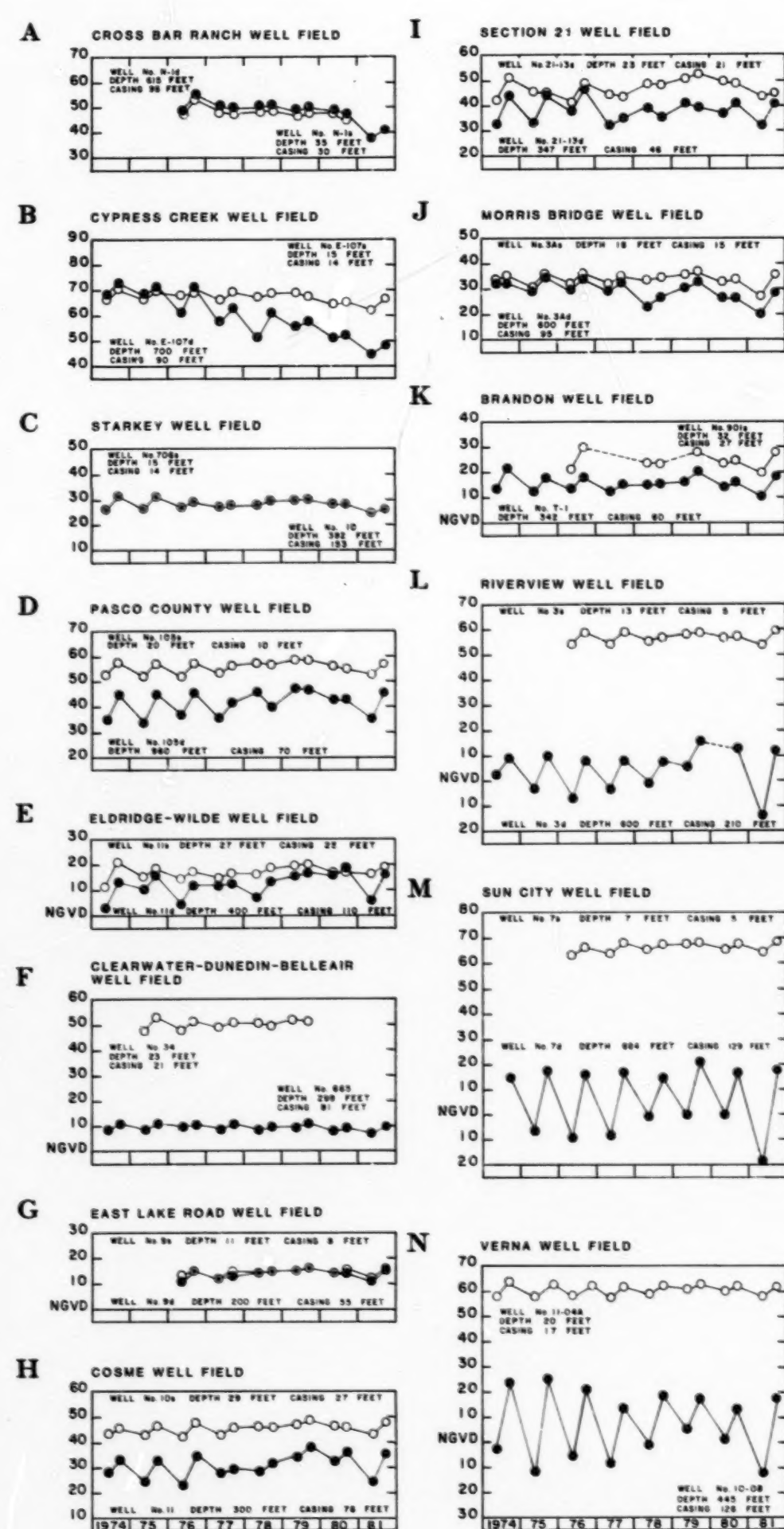


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POTENTIOMETRIC SURFACE OF THE FLORIDAN AQUIFER

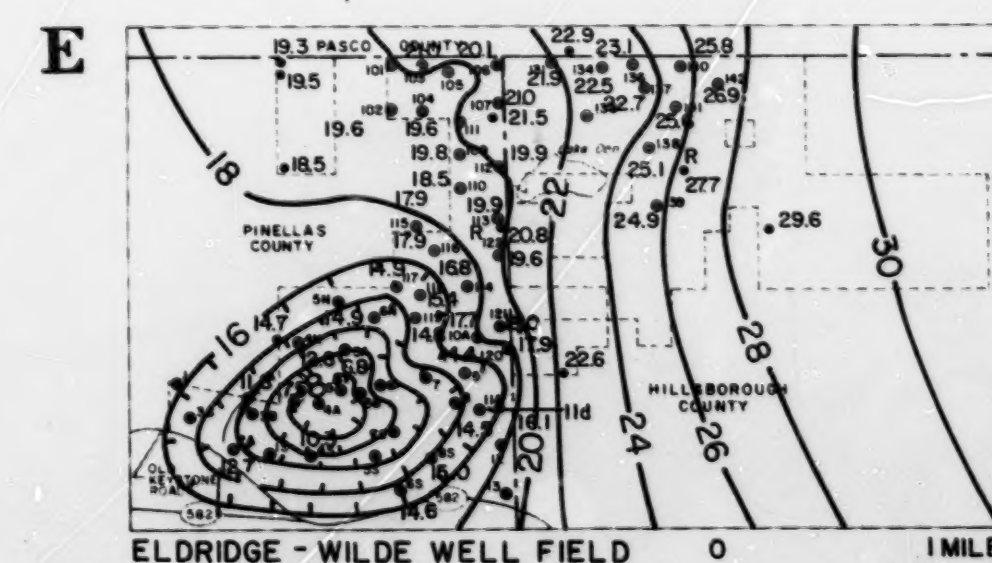
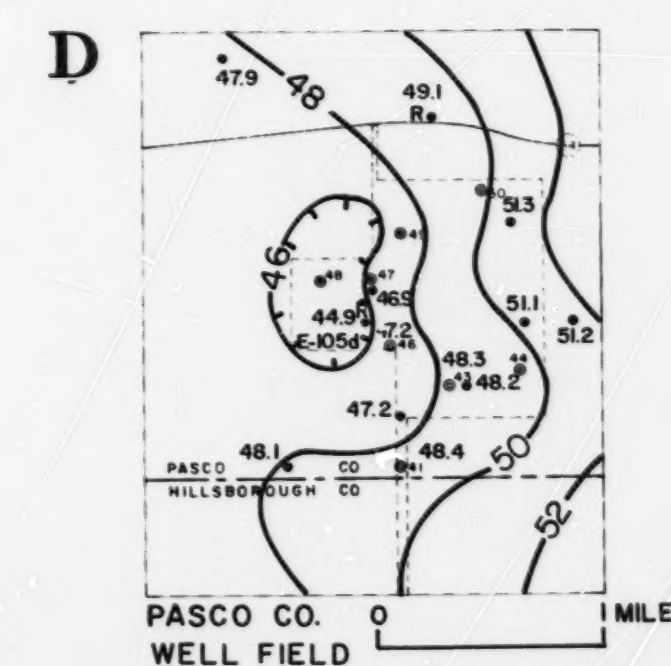
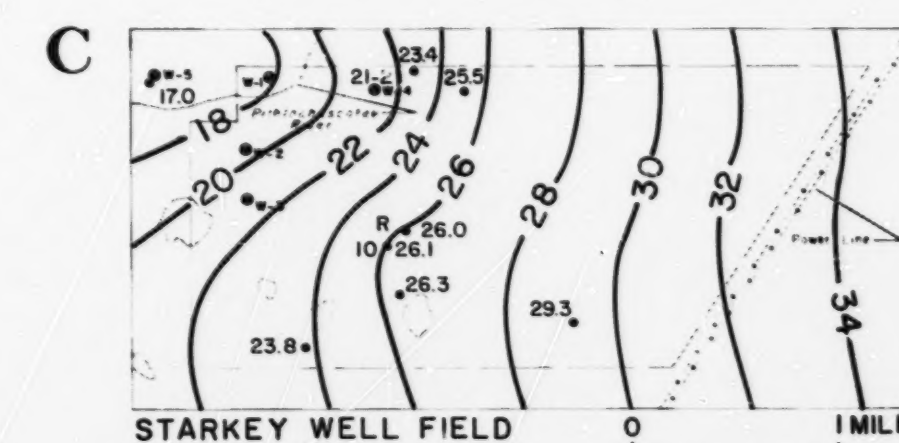
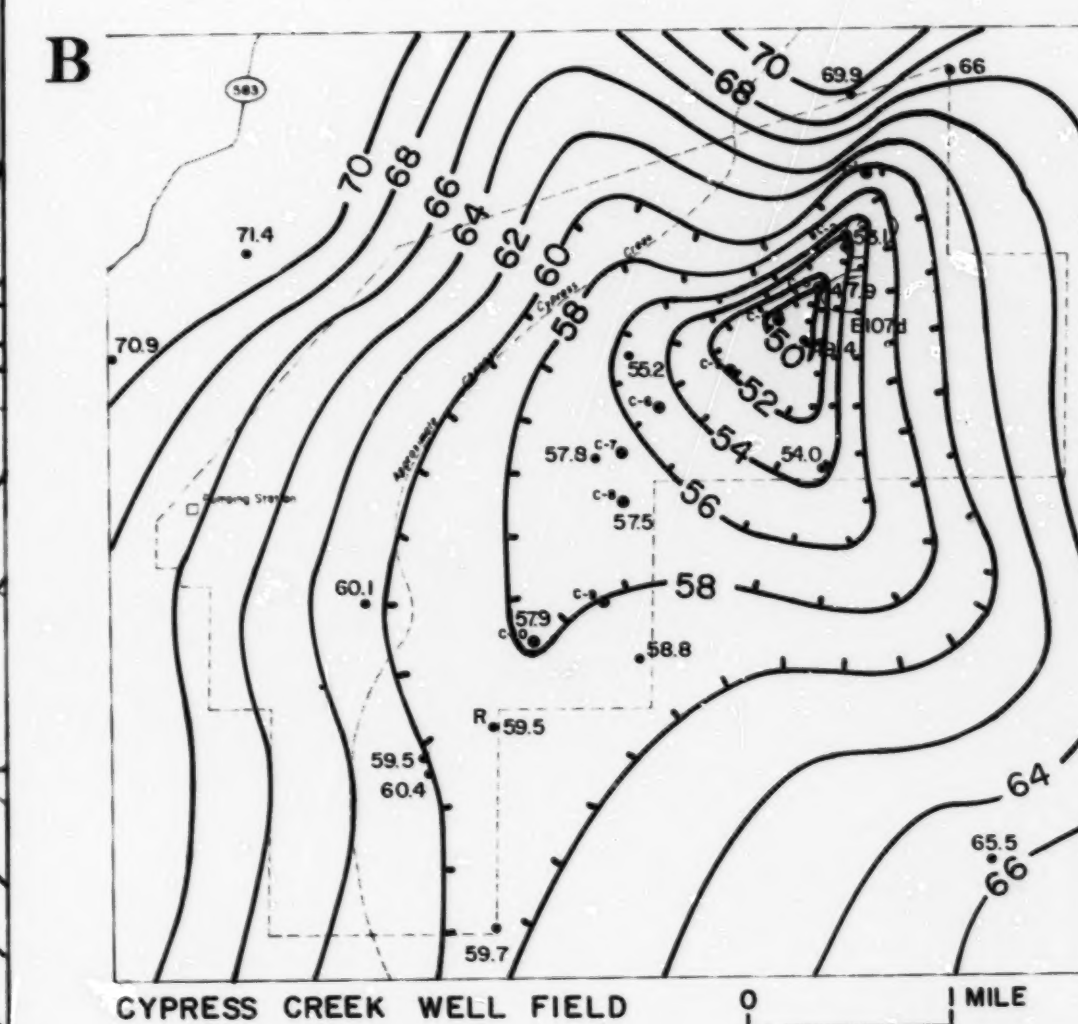
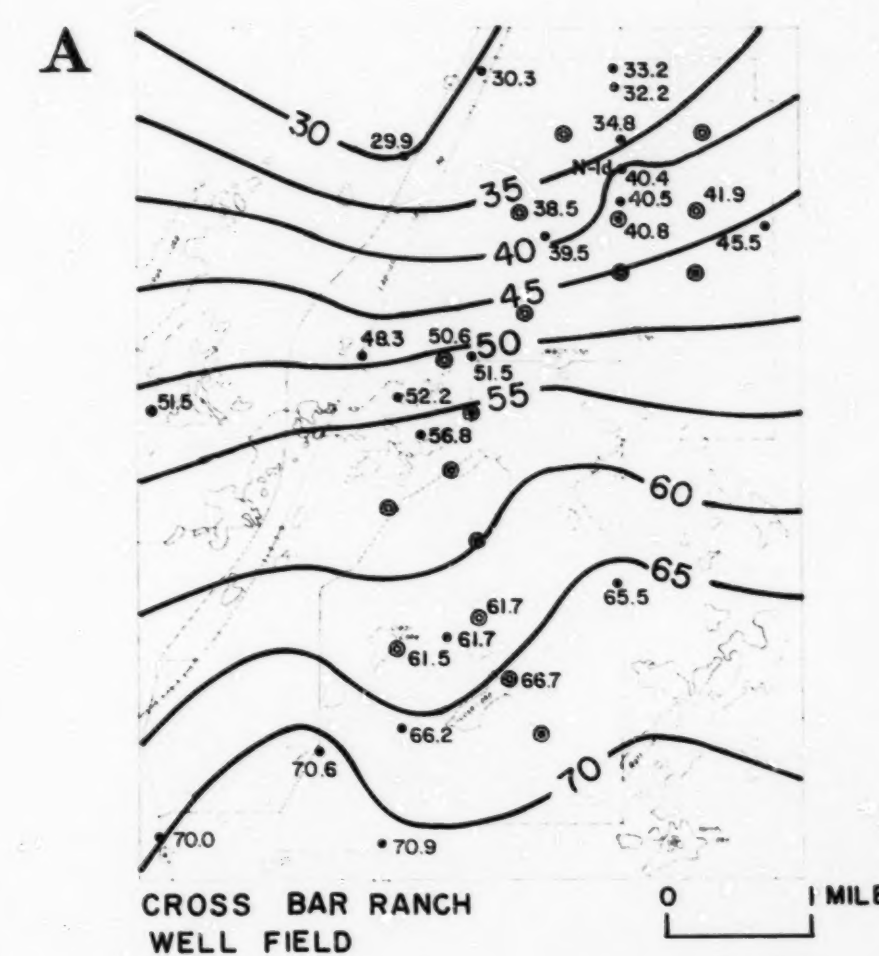
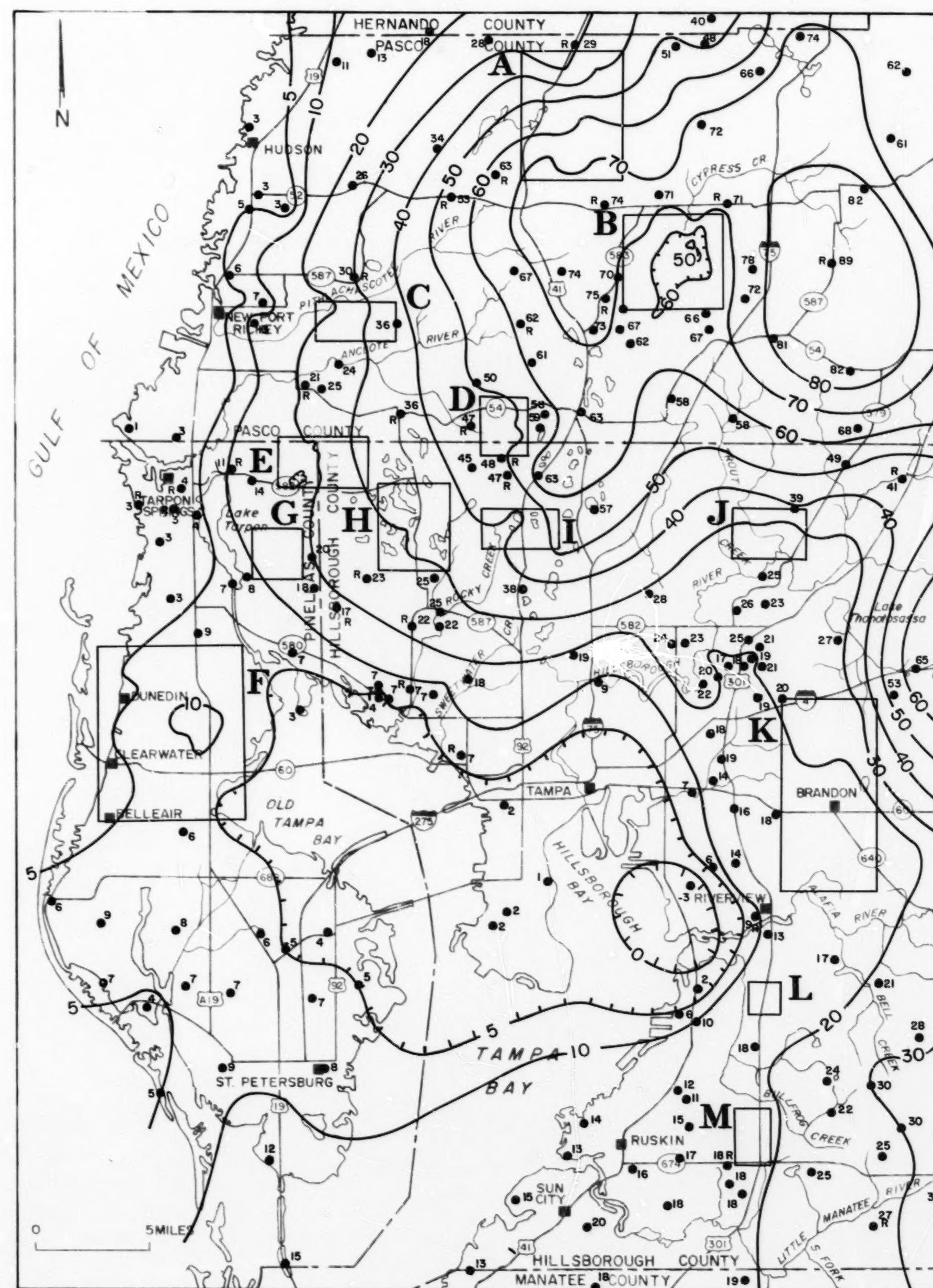
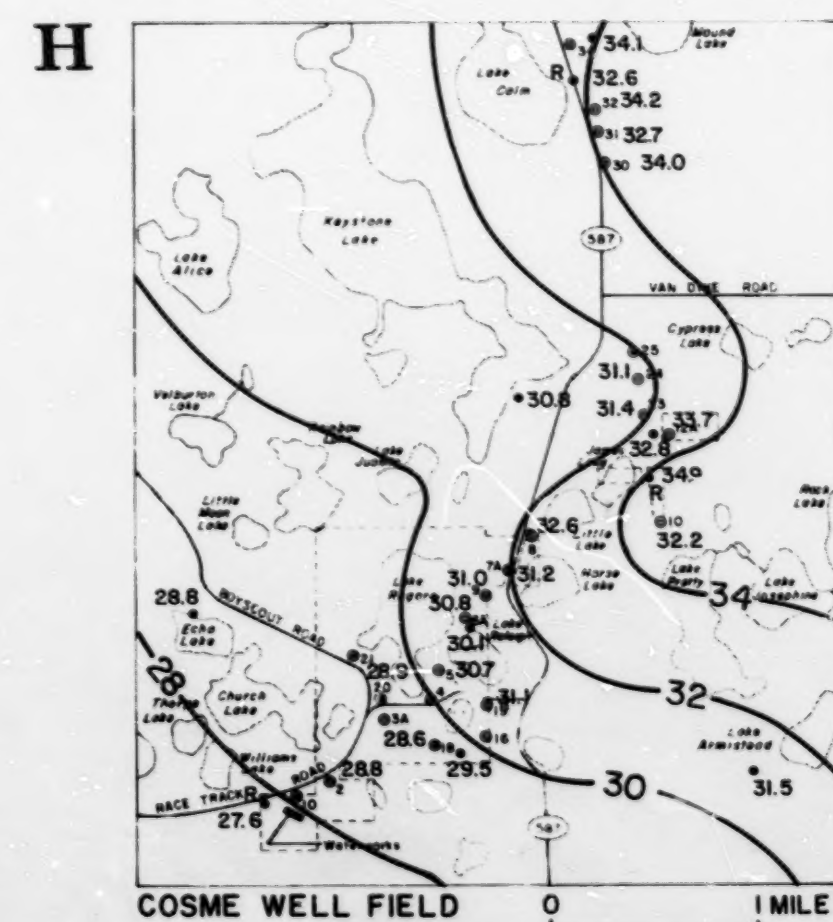
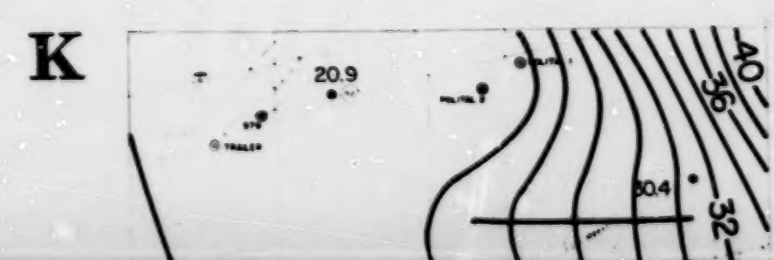
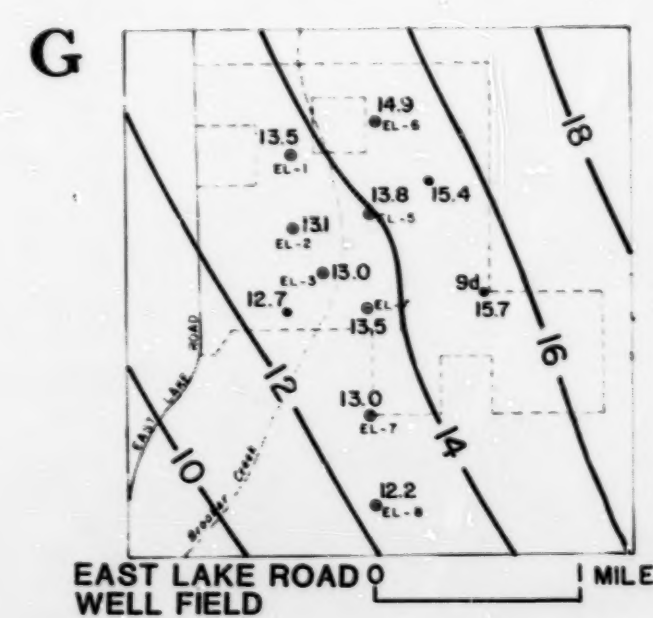
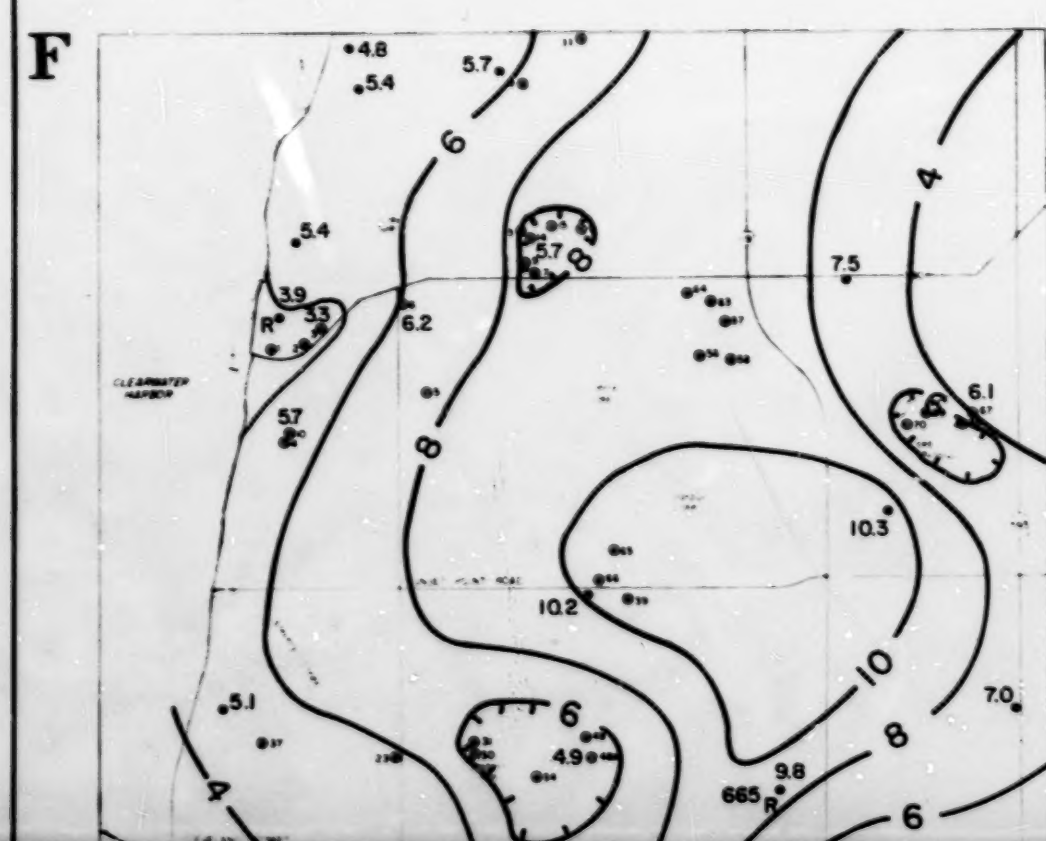
HYDROGRAPHS SHOWING MAY AND SEPTEMBER WATER LEVELS OF
SELECTED WELLS TAPPING THE SURFICIAL AND FLORIDAN AQUIFERS

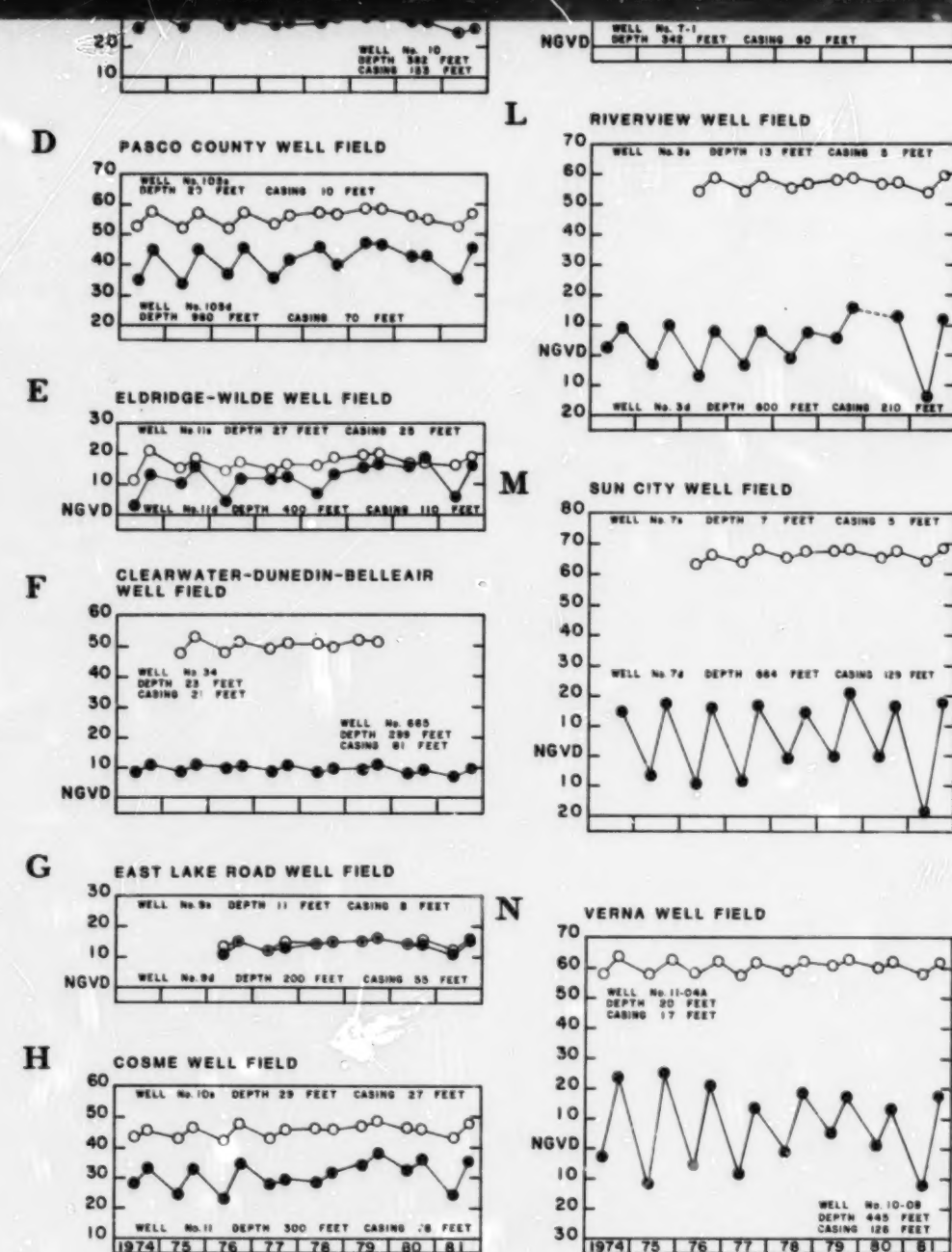


○ Surficial aquifer
● Floridan aquifer

EXPLANATION

- 20— POTENTIOMETRIC CONTOUR—Shows altitude at which water level would have stood in tightly cased wells, September 21-23. Contour interval 2, 5, and 10 feet. Numbers indicate depressions. Datum is National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 (NGVD).
- 5● 13● MUNICIPAL SUPPLY WELLS—Shows location, number or name, and where shown, water level in feet above or below NGVD. Open symbol indicates well was idle. Solid symbol indicates well was pumped during monitoring.
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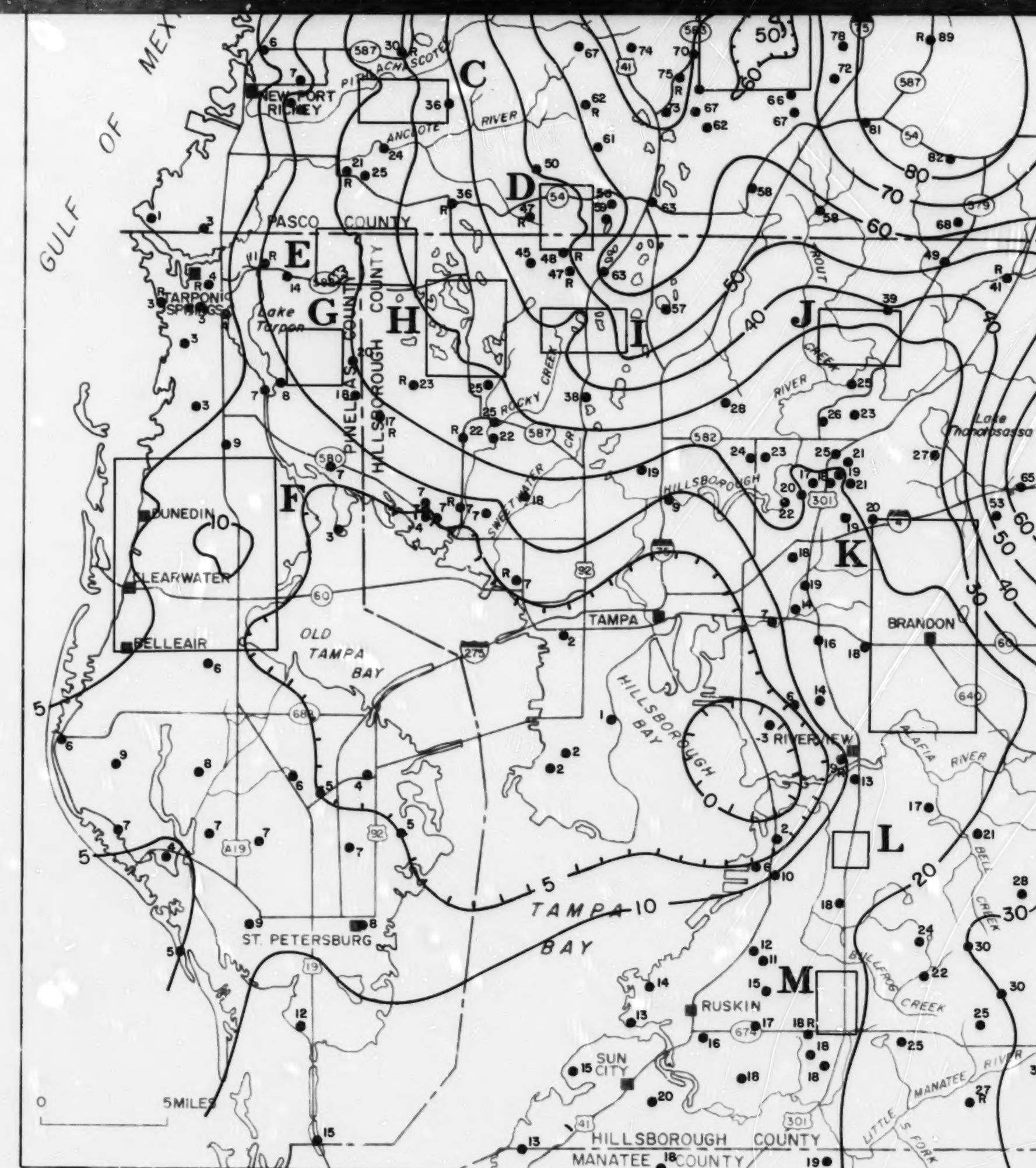
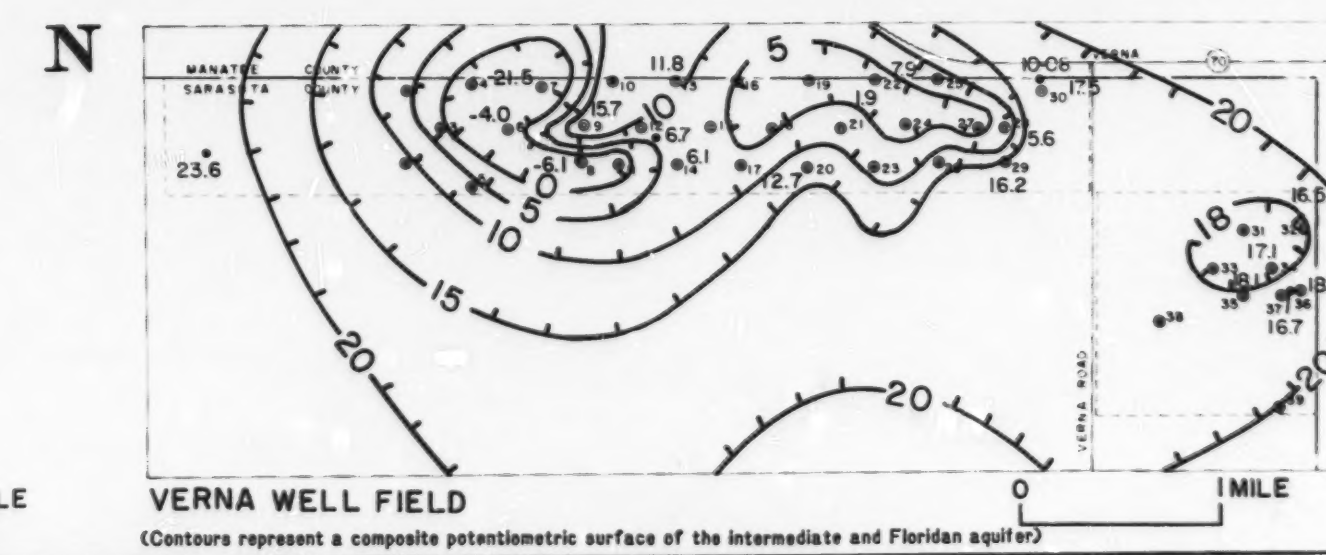
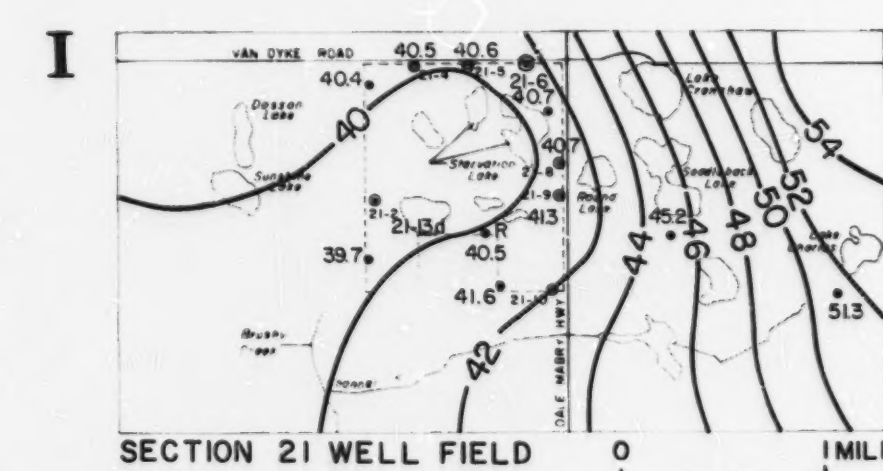
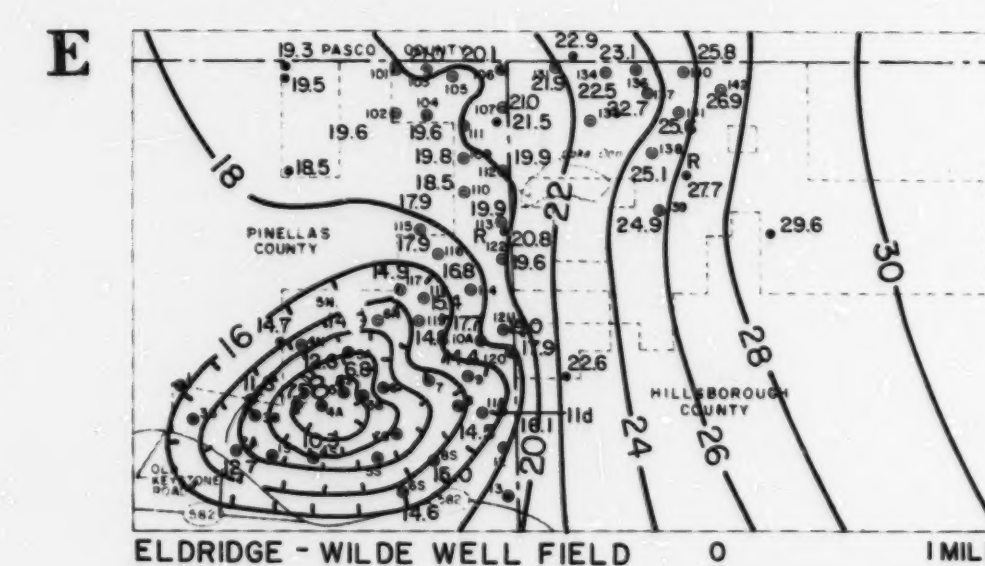
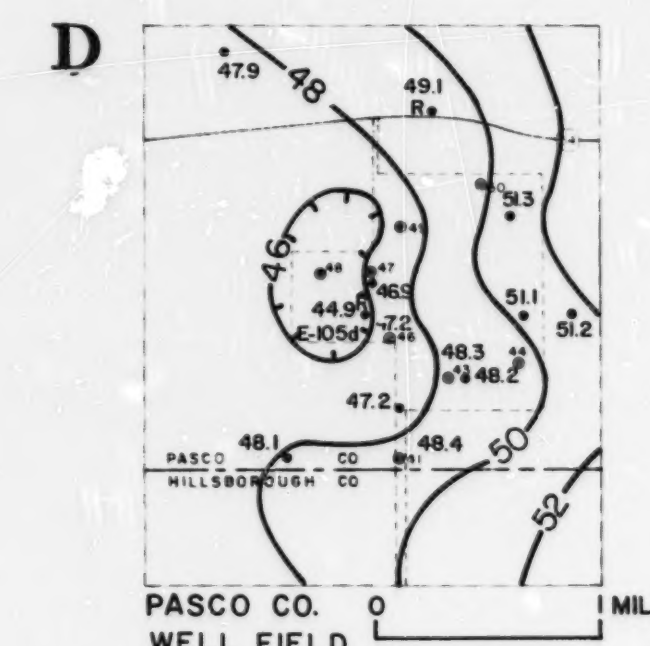
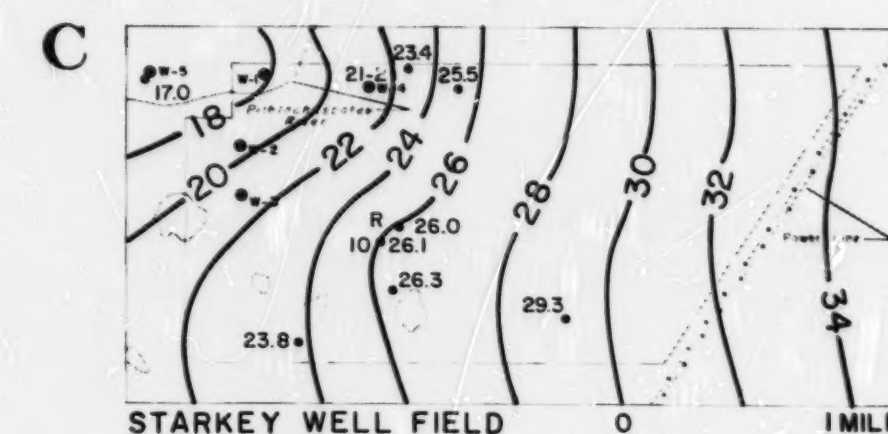
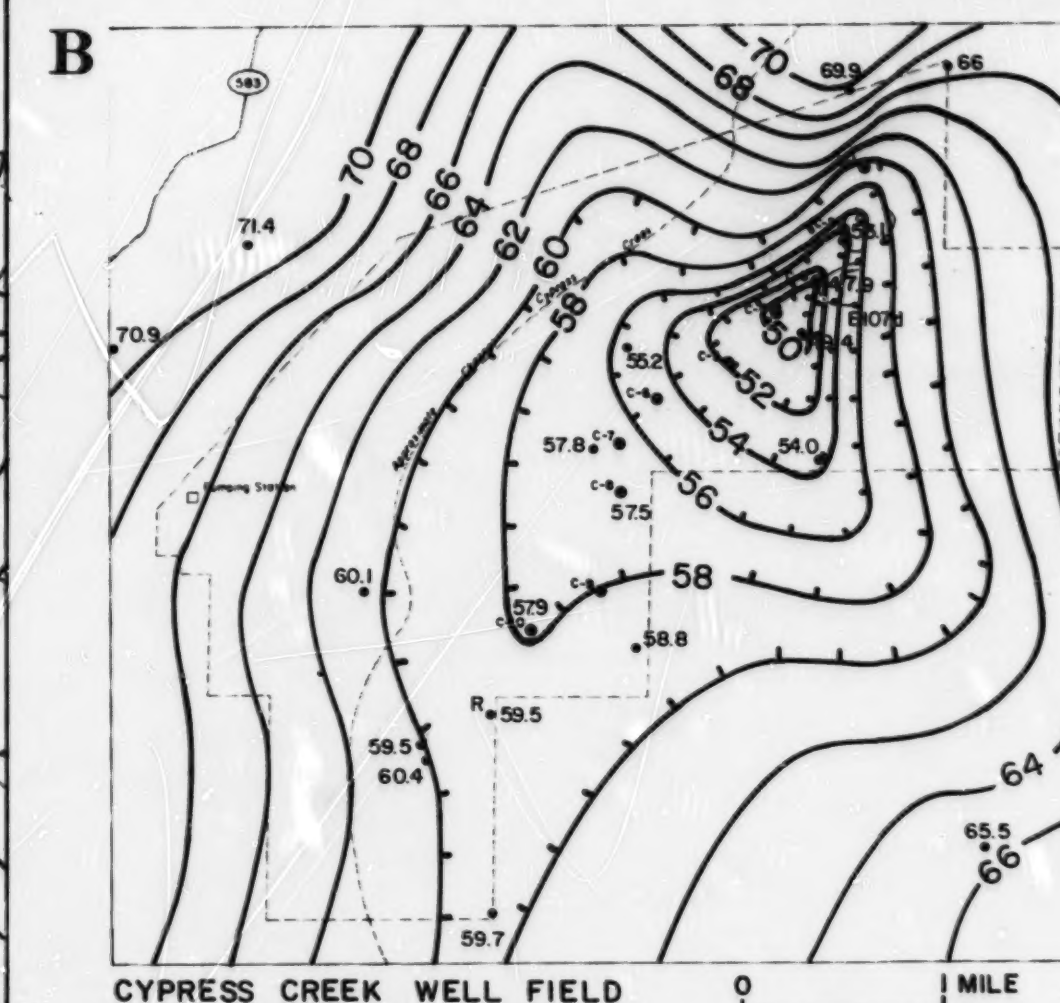
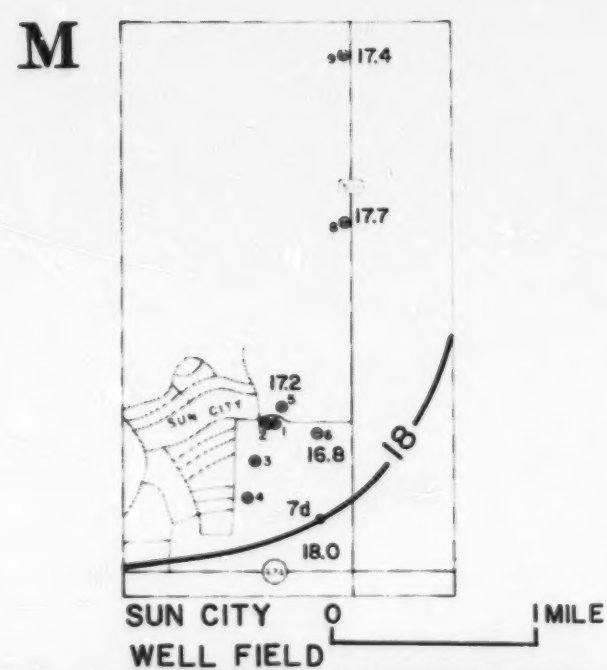
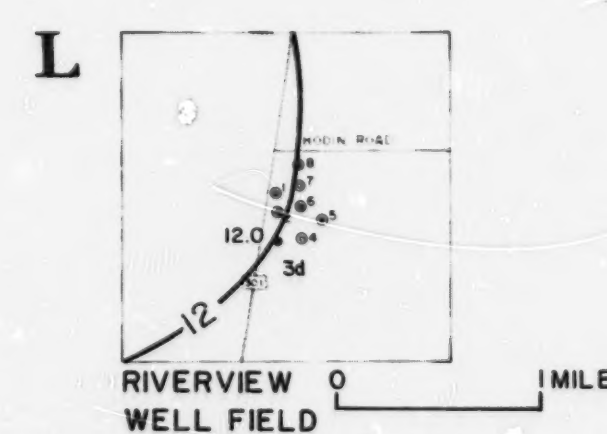
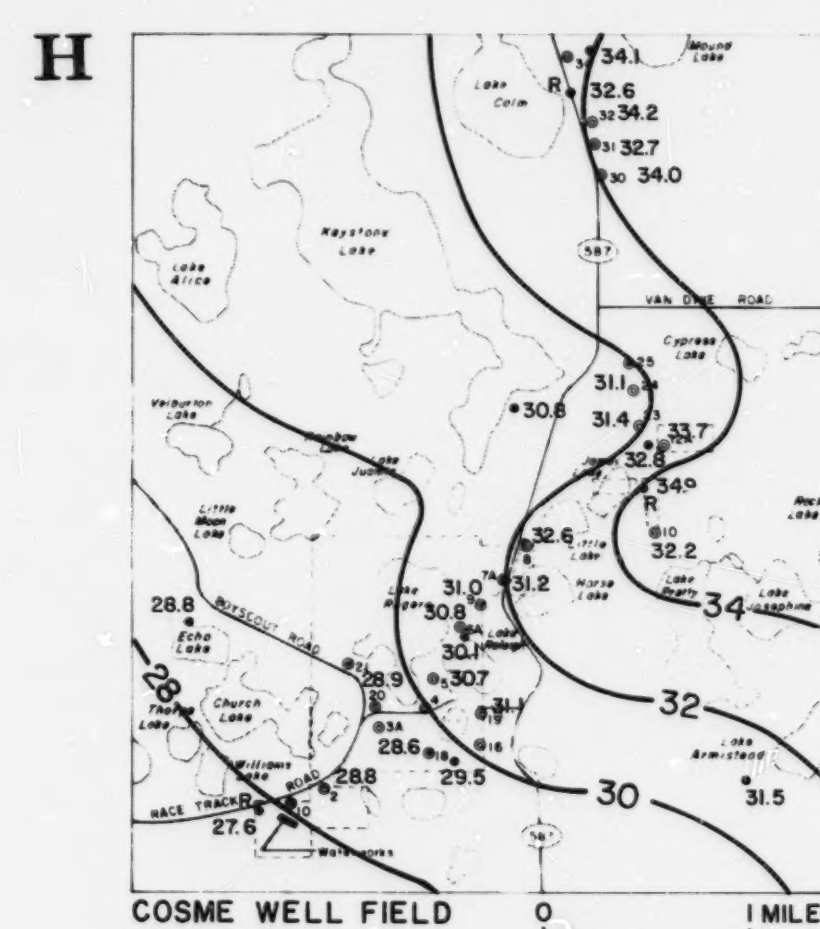
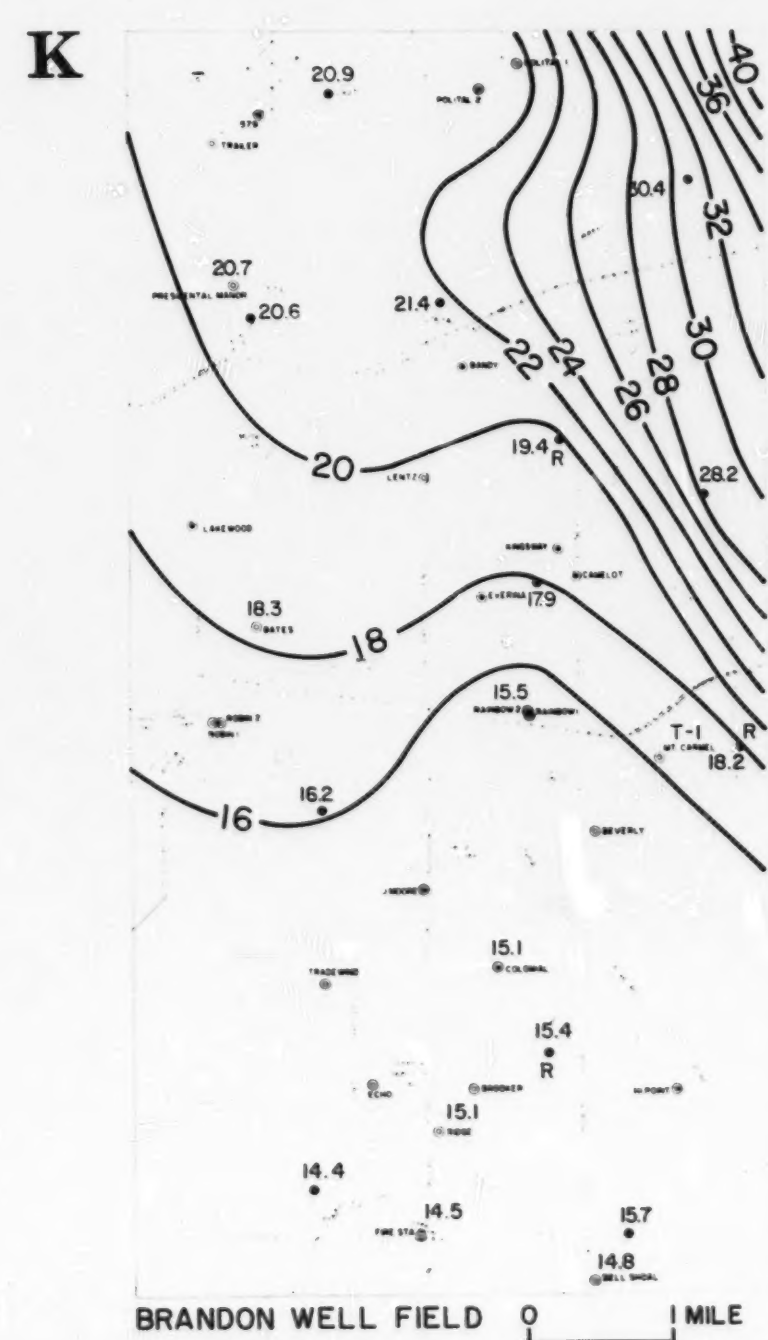
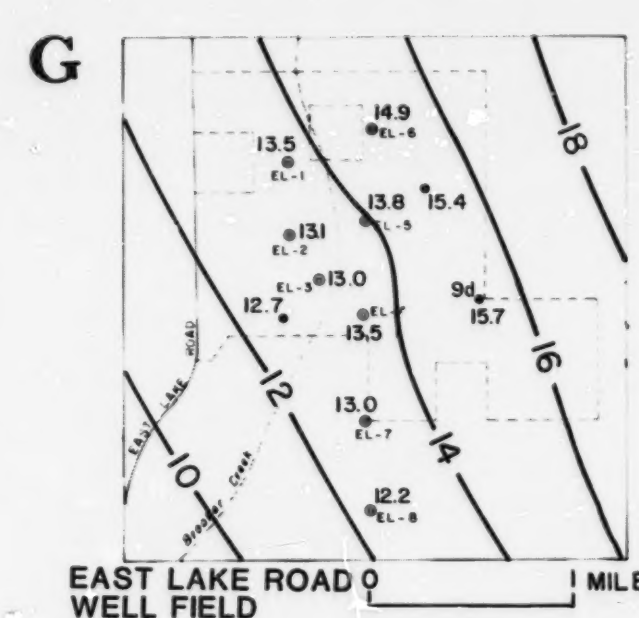
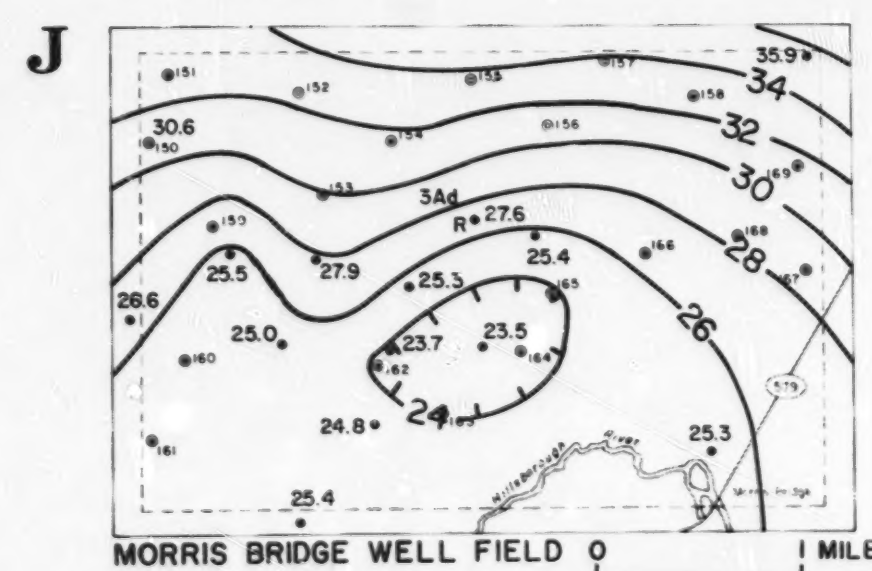
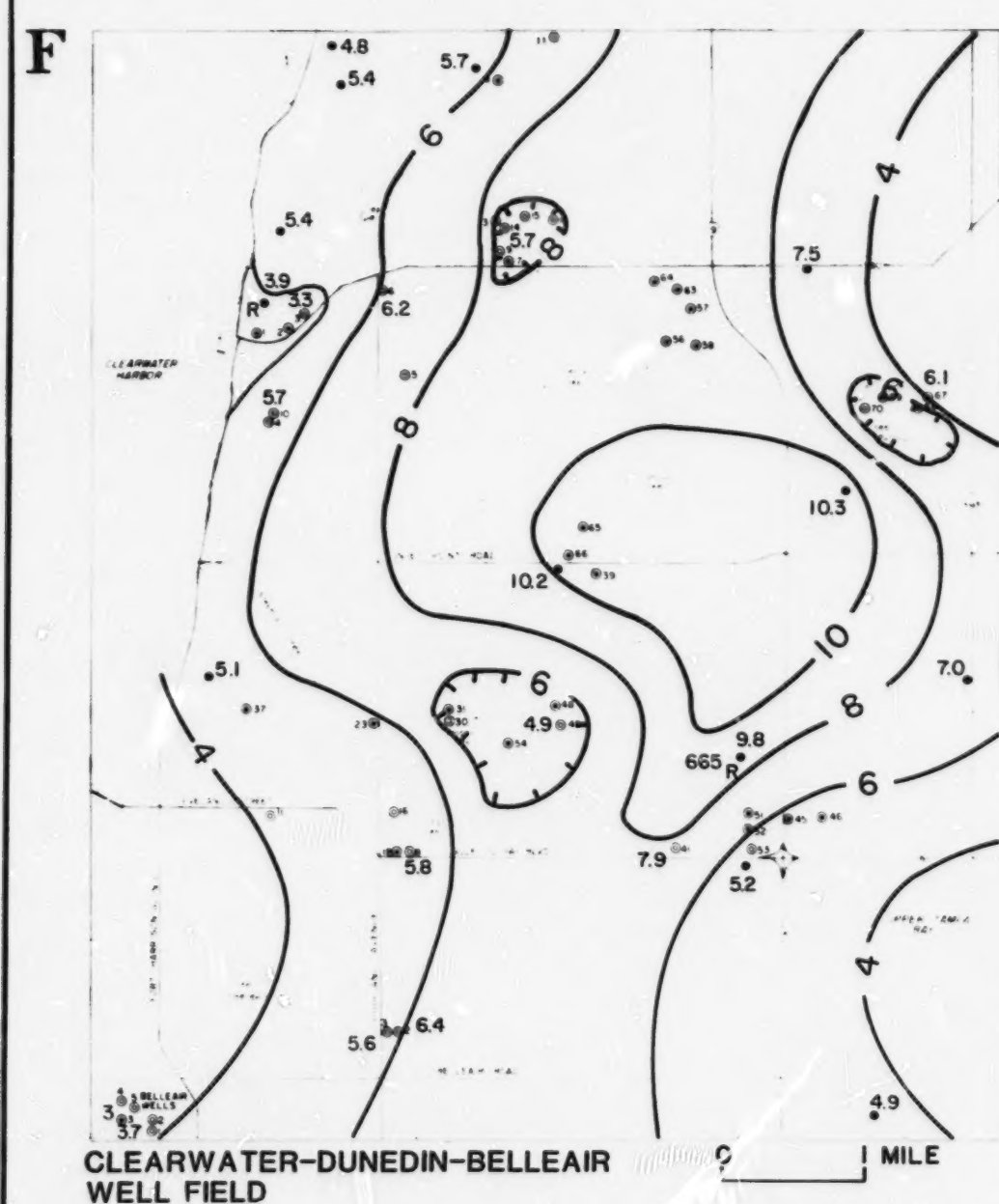




- Surficial aquifer
- Floridan aquifer

EXPLANATION

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GROUND-WATER LEVELS IN SELECTED WELL FIELDS AND IN WEST-CENTRAL FLORIDA, SEPTEMBER 1981

By

D. K. YOBBI and G. L. BARR